

Department of Health and Human Services

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDES MORE THAN 300 PROGRAMS, covering a wide spectrum of activities. Some highlights include:

- Medical and social science research
- Preventing outbreak of infectious disease, including immunization services
- Assuring food and drug safety
- Medicare (health insurance for elderly and disabled Americans) and Medicaid (health insurance for low-income people)
- Financial assistance for low-income families
- Child support enforcement
- Improving maternal and infant health
- Head Start (pre-school education and services)
- Preventing child abuse and domestic violence
- Substance abuse treatment and prevention
- Services for older Americans, including home-delivered meals
- Comprehensive health services delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives

HHS IS THE LARGEST GRANT-MAKING AGENCY in the federal government, providing some 60,000 grants per year. HHS' Medicare program is the nation's largest health insurer, handling more than 900 million claims per year.

HHS WORKS CLOSELY WITH STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, and many HHS-funded services are provided at the local level by state or county agencies, or through private sector grantees. The Department's programs are administered by 11 HHS operating divisions. In addition to the services they deliver, the HHS programs provide for equitable treatment of beneficiaries nationwide, and they enable the collection of national health and other data.

HHS Budget, FY 1999-- \$387 billion

HHS employees -- 59,800

Leadership is provided by the [Office of the Secretary](#), and administrative support is provided by the [Program Support Center](#), a self-supporting operating division of HHS. The Department's Headquarters is in the [Hubert H. Humphrey Building](#), 200 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C., 20201. HHS has a long [history](#).

HHS OPERATING DIVISIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OPERATING DIVISIONS

[National Institutes of Health](#) -- NIH is the world's premier medical research organization, supporting some 35,000 research projects nationwide in diseases like cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, arthritis, heart ailments and AIDS. Includes 17 separate health institutes, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, the National Library of Medicine and the National Center for Human Genome Research. Established: 1887, as the Hygienic Laboratory, Staten Island, N.Y. Headquarters: Bethesda, MD.

Employees	--	16,010
Director	--	Harold E. Varmus, M.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$15.7 billion

Food and Drug Administration -- FDA assures the safety of foods and cosmetics, and the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals, biological products and medical devices -- products which represent 25 cents out of every dollar in U.S. consumer spending. Established: 1906. Headquarters: Rockville, MD.

Employees	--	9,500
Commissioner	--	Jane E. Henney, M.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$1.1 billion

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- Working with states and other partners, CDC provides a system of health surveillance to monitor and prevent outbreak of diseases, and maintains national health statistics. Provides for immunization services. Guards against international disease transmission, with CDC personnel stationed in more than 25 foreign countries. Supports research into disease and injury prevention. Established: 1946, as the Communicable Disease Center. Headquarters: Atlanta, GA.

Employees	--	7,100
Director	--	Jeffrey P. Koplan, M.D, M.P.H.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$2.7 billion

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry -- Working with states and other federal agencies, ATSDR seeks to prevent exposure to hazardous substances from waste sites. The agency conducts public health assessments, health studies, surveillance activities, and health education training in communities around waste sites on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List. ATSDR also has developed toxicological profiles of hazardous chemicals found at these sites. Established: 1980. Headquarters: Atlanta, GA.

ATSDR Employees	--	413
Acting Administrator	--	Jeffrey P. Koplan, M.D, MPH (CDC Director)
Asst. Administrator	--	Barry L. Johnson, Ph.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$74 million

Indian Health Service -- The IHS has 37 hospitals, 60 health centers, 3 school health centers, and 46 health stations. It also assists 34 urban Indian health centers. Services are provided to nearly 1.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives of 557 Federally recognized tribes through a workforce of approximately 14,500 employees and an additional tribal and urban Indian health workforce of approximately 10,000. Annually there are about 90,000 hospital admissions and 7 million outpatient visits, 4 million community health representative client contacts, and 2.4 million dental services. Established: 1924 (mission transferred from the Interior Department in 1955.) Headquarters: Rockville, MD.

Employees	--	14,300
Director	--	Michael H. Trujillo, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$2.6 billion

Health Resources and Services Administration -- HRSA helps provide health resources for medically underserved populations. A nationwide network of 643 community and migrant health centers, plus 144 primary care programs for the homeless and residents of public housing, serve 8.1 million Americans each year. HRSA also works to build the health care workforce and maintains the National Health Service Corps. Provides services to people with AIDS through the Ryan White CARE Act programs. Oversees the organ transplantation system. Works to decrease infant mortality and improve and child health. Established: 1982, bringing together several already-existing programs. Headquarters: Rockville, MD.

Employees	--	2,100
Administrator	--	Claude Earl Fox, M.D., M.P.H.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$4.3 billion

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration -- SAMHSA works to improve the quality and availability of substance abuse prevention, addiction treatment, and mental health services. Provides funding through block grants to states for direct substance abuse and mental health services, including treatment for over

340,000 Americans with serious substance abuse problems. Helps improve substance abuse treatment through its Knowledge Development and Applications grant program. Monitors prevalence and incidence of substance abuse and mental illness. Established: 1992. (A predecessor agency, the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, was established in 1974.) Headquarters: Rockville, MD.

Employees	--	691
Administrator	--	Nelba Chavez, Ph.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$2.5 billion

Agency for Health Care Policy and Research -- AHCPR supports cross-cutting research on health care systems, health care quality and cost issues, and effectiveness of medical treatments. Established: 1989. Headquarters: Rockville, MD.

Employees	--	275
Administrator	--	John M. Eisenberg, M.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$171 million

HUMAN SERVICES OPERATING DIVISIONS

Health Care Financing Administration -- HCFA administers the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which provide health care to about one in every four Americans. Medicare provides health insurance for more than 39 million elderly and disabled Americans. Medicaid, a joint federal-state program, provides health coverage for more than 34 million low-income persons, including nearly 18 million children and nursing home coverage for low-income elderly. HCFA also administers the new Children's Health Insurance Program through approved state plans that cover more than 2.2 million children. Established: 1977. Headquarters: Baltimore, MD.

Employees	--	4,200
Administrator	--	Nancy-Ann Min Deparle
FY'99 Budget	--	\$342.8 billion

Administration for Children and Families -- ACF is responsible for some 60 programs which provide services and assistance to needy children and families. Administers the new state-federal welfare program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, providing assistance to an estimated 12.2 million persons, including 8.4 million children. Administers national child support enforcement system, collecting some \$11.8 billion in 1996 in payments from non-custodial parents. Administers the Head Start program, serving about 800,000 pre-school children. Provides funds to assist low-income families in paying for child care, and supports state programs to provide for foster care and adoption assistance. Funds programs to prevent child abuse and domestic violence. Established: 1991, bringing together several already-existing programs. Headquarters: Washington, D.C.

Employees	--	1,500
Assistant Secretary for Children and Families	--	Olivia Golden, Ph.D.
FY'99 Budget	--	\$38.3 billion

Administration on Aging -- AoA supports a nationwide aging network, providing services to the elderly, especially to enable them to remain independent. Supports some 240 million meals for the elderly each year, including home-delivered "meals on wheels." Helps provide transportation and at-home services. Supports ombudsman services for elderly, and provides policy leadership on aging issues.

Employees	--	142
Assistant Secretary for Aging	--	Jeanette C. Takamura
FY'99 Budget	--	\$883 million

*In addition, the **Program Support Center**, a self-supporting operating division of the Department, provides administration services for HHS and other federal agencies.*

Departmental leadership is provided by the Office of the Secretary, including five staff divisions.